

IL DIVO

BY CANDLELIGHT

WITH SPECIAL GUEST SIMPLY THREE

Multi-platinum vocal group blending classical, opera and pop music



This event is made possible through the generous support of Irvine & Ellen Hockaday and the Kimbell Performing Arts Programming Fund.

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Jeff and Mary Weinberg are pleased to support performing arts experiences in our community and help bring world-class artists, like IL DIVO, to the Lied Center stage.

There will be an intermission between the opening act and headliner.

IL DIVO

For over 20 years, Il Divo has embodied the power of music, brotherhood and artistic evolution. Since their debut in 2004, the iconic quartet—formed today with Urs Bühler (tenor, Switzerland), Sébastien Izambard (tenor, France), David Miller (tenor, USA) and Steven LaBrie (baritone, USA)—has redefined classical crossover, captivating audiences worldwide with their breathtaking vocals and electrifying performances. With over 30 million albums sold, 50 #1 hits and 160 gold and platinum certifications across 35 countries, their impact is undeniable. They have graced the world's grandest stages, from the Summer Olympics and FIFA World Cup to the Diamond Jubilee at Windsor and the Commander-in-Chief's Ball. In 2021, Il Divo faced an immense loss with the passing of co-founder Carlos Marín due to COVID-19. Honoring his memory, the remaining members embarked on the *Greatest Hits Tour* in 2022, where baritone Steven LaBrie joined as a guest performer. A year later, Steven officially became a full-time member. With this new chapter, Il Divo entered the studio in 2023 in Coconut Grove, FL, with producer Carlos Fernando Lopez to record their tenth album and first independent release, *XX: 20th Anniversary Album* (Il Divo Music/Thirty Tigers). It marked a series of firsts—their first album with Steven, their first release under their own label, Il Divo Music, and their first time serving as executive producers, with Sébastien also taking on the role of co-arranger. Following two years of global promotion for *XX: 20th Anniversary Album*, Il Divo returned to Europe in the summer of 2025 embarking on their new world tour, *Il Divo By Candlelight*. "We want to perform in theaters, creating an intimate experience where fans feel part of the performance," explains David. "We've challenged our creative team to design a show that is elegant and immersive, yet never overshadowed by production." "We want the music to speak for itself," adds Steven. *Il Divo By Candlelight* will take audiences on a journey through two decades of romance, heartache and joy, weaving their greatest musical triumphs into an unforgettable evening. In the U.S., they will be joined by Phoenix-based string trio Simply Three, who will open the shows.

Simply Three

Simply Three is a dynamic instrumental trio from Phoenix, AZ, known for their genre-defying fusion of classical, rock and pop music. Formed in 2010, the group—Nicholas Villalobos (cello), Zack Clark (bass) and Julian Nguyen (violin)—first gained attention through street performances and viral videos of their unique takes on popular hits like "Wake Me Up" by Avicii and "Counting Stars" by OneRepublic. Their ability to seamlessly blend elegance and technical precision with raw energy and modern flair quickly launched them onto prominent stages around the world. With high-energy live shows featuring songs like "Rolling in the Deep" and "Take Me To Church," Simply Three delivers captivating performances that resonate across audiences of all ages and musical tastes.

Their discography includes critically acclaimed renditions of songs like "Despacito" and compelling original works such as the cinematic "Rain." Through lush harmonies and emotional storytelling, Simply Three pushes the boundaries of instrumental music, offering immersive soundscapes that are both powerful and introspective. The trio has collaborated with artists such as Brooklyn Duo, Nathan Pacheco and Peter Hollens, and maintains a strong commitment to music education through outreach and workshops. As trailblazers in contemporary instrumental music, Simply Three continues to innovate with each new release, leaving a lasting impression with covers of hits like "Dance Monkey" and "Bad Guy," and cementing their status as one of the most exciting groups of their generation.